

Remarks

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 have been amended. Claims 1 – 9 remain in the case.

Claims 1 – 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Fieber (U.S. 5,287,844). Claim 1 has been amended to specify that the grill is a rotatable member, that it has a central hub, that it is completely rotatable around the central hub so different food items on different parts of the grill can be rotated to different positions above the fire or heating source such as from a hotter location to a cooler location, and that the rotatable grill member can be manually lifted off from the pivot post of the stand's connecting member. The Fieber patent discloses a grill that does not rotate on a central hub and cannot rotate on a central hub. It is secured to the stand by a bracket which itself can be pivoted around the upright support of the stand itself. The grill can be pivoted by that different construction away from the fire and back into position over the fire, but individual food items on different parts of the grill cannot be rotated from a location above a hotter part of the fire to a location above a cooler part, or vice versa. Also, the grill in the Fieber patent cannot be manually lifted off and away from the stand. The bracket screw has to be loosened, and the tongue of the grill then has to be slid out and away from the bracket. This can only be done after the grill and stand have been allowed to cool and after the food items have been taken off of the grill. In the present invention, it is possible to lift the grill from its pivot post quickly enough to do it without waiting for the fire to be put out, and without necessarily removing the food from the grill. In any event, it would not be obvious for one of ordinary skill in the art to think of the particular fully rotatable grill construction in accordance with the present invention

from seeing the different kind of camp grill disclosed in the Fieber patent. Claims 2 – 8 depend from claim 1 and thus include the foregoing amendment of claim 1, and claim 9 has been amended to include the substance of such amendment.

Claims 2 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Scheller (U.S. 5,944,009). The Scheller patent does not disclose a grill that is a rotatable member rotatably mounted on a pivot post, nor does it disclose a grill that can be simply lifter off from a pivot post on which it is mounted. Claim 1 has been amended to include those features, which are incorporated in claims 2 and 3 by being ultimately dependent on claim 1. There is also nothing disclosed in the Scheller patent that would make it obvious to provide a pivot post for a rotatable grill member, not to provide a grill member that has a central hub about which it could be made to pivot or rotate. The chain harness 44 of Scheller in fact teaches away from the idea of providing a rotatable grill having a central hub mounted on a pivot post.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fieber (U.S. 5,287,844). Claim 7 as amended is made dependent on Claim 1 which as stated above has been amended to avoid the Fieber reference patent. If Claim 1 as amended is now patentable over the Fieber reference, claim 7 is also patentable over the Fieber reference for the same reasons.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. (103(a) as being unpatentable over Scheller as applied to claim 2, in view of Robertson (U.S. 4,117,825). In claim 4 as amended the pivotable support members rotate about the longitudinal axis of the upright support member. In the Scheller-Robertson combination, the support members of Robertson are shown to pivot upwardly toward a position adjacent to and parallel to the upright post

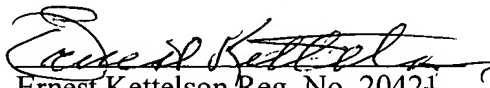
112 rather than to rotate about the longitudinal axis of the post 112. Furthermore, the Scheller-Robertson combination of patents does not appear to disclose that one of the laterally extending support members is fixed or rigid relative to the post 112 of Robertson whereas in the present invention as set forth in claim 4, one of the laterally extending support members is fixed while the others are rotatable about the longitudinal axis. Such construction would not be obvious from what is disclosed in the Scheller and Robertson patents.

Claims 5, 6 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Scheller as applied to claim 2 in view of Gallatly (U.S. 4,065,085). The rotation limiting assembly of Gallatly is substantially different from that of the present invention. While the Gallatly patent does disclose a collar 16, it does not disclose or suggest a collar that has an arcuate slot therein to receive a lug which limits rotation to the lateral dimension of the slot. Claims 5, 6 and 8 do include such inventive feature, and thus appear to be patentably distinguishable from the Scheller-Gallatly combination.

For the reasons, amendments and arguments set forth above, the application as amended appears to overcome the rejections and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

A clean copy of all of the claims in the case as presently amended is included herewith..

Respectfully submitted,


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